32. Shukla Tirath
33. Vadgam
34. Chitra vad
35. Alindra
36. Jesawada
37. Randhikapur
38. Dhanipur
39. Otha

Newspaper Industry

684. SHRI SHANKER SINH VA GHELA; Will the Minister of IND USTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government'g attention has been drawn to the new? item which appeared in the Times of India dated the 30th January, 1986 wherein it has been reported that the Newspaper Industry has been facing grave crisis due to increase in the price of inputs like newsprint, ink and machinery; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to save this Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Specific proposals if received would be considered on merits.

Vacancies in High Courts

685. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KID WAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies in the different High Courie of the country at the beginning of 1985;

(b) the total number of vacancies lying unfilled till January. 1986; and

<c) by what time the vacancies are likely to be fllled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE *IN* THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ); (a) *As on* 1-1-1985 there were 54 vacancies of Judges'in different High Courts of the country.

(b) As on 31-1-1986, there wete 60 vacancies of Judges in different High Courts of the country.

(c) The matter regarding filling up the existing vacancies of Judges is engaging the attention of the Government in consultation with the concerned Constitutional authorities. It is not possible to indicate the time by which the vacancies will be filled.

Repacement of Under Ground Telephone Cables

686. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities and towns, where the underground cables of telephones have been replaced so far; and

(b) the details of the modern methods employed in the maintenance of telephones and telegraph system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA); (a) In 50 towns/cities cables had been replaced. Replacement of under ground cables is a continuous operation and maintenance process in all the cities/towns having underground network.

(b) Modern methods employed in the maintenance of telephones are use of jelly filled cables, Pressurisation of cables, lying of under ground cables inducts digital fault locator, computerisation, replacement of old exchanges with SPC digital type electronic and analogue exchanges.

For maintenance of telegraph system the uae oi electronics Teleprinter machines, use of voice frequency telegraph system, store and forward type micro processor controlled message switching telegraph systems use of reliable high grade communication media such as microwave co-axial Satellite and UHF radio system etc. are being employed.

Manufacture of Telephone Instruments

687. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has recently been signed by India and Italy for the manufacture of five lakh telephone instruments per annum in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) An agreement has been entered into by Indian Telephone Industries Limited. Bangalore with M|s FACE standard of Italy in October, 1983 for manufacture of 5 lakh telephone instruments and 2.5 lakh critical parts each at Bangalore and Naini Units of Indian Telephone Industries of FACE Domino Rotary Type of telephones. This agreement also includes transfer of technology by the collaborator toi manufacture of push button telephones. The sanction cost of the project is Rs. 18.33 crores.

Supply of ration to survivors of. Bhopal Gas Tragedy

688. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:

SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA;

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that the supply of free ration to the survivors of Bhopal Gas Tragedy, most of whom are crippled and belong to the working class, has been discontinued by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken; by Government to get their rations restored so as tO' save them from starvation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO CHEMICALS (SHRI R..K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the supply of free ration has been discontinued as the state Government has already undertaken implementation of various -relief and rehabilitation scheme to enable survivors to support themselves. Relief and rehabilitation measures include: (i) ex-gratia grant of Rs. 19,000 to the descendent for each of the deceased persons; (ii) Rs. 1500 to affected families having monthly income of Rs. 500 or less, (iii) Social security pension of Rs. 200 per month to the widows of the tragedy.

Under the Integrated Child Development Scheme, '538 anganwadi centres are functioning in the area benefiting about 62.000 children and